

2010.33 Inclusion of items in the Parish Magazine.

S. MacLeod indicated the items to be submitted this month. They included the Spinal Injury Association's "Great British Fish & Chip Supper", brief reference to WPC seeking access to Whittington Tump, the pending temporary closure of Church Lane, and the Public & Parish Meetings referred to at Item 2010.27.

2010.34 Correspondence.

A note of correspondence received had been periodically sent out to Members under the "Clerk's Digest" since the last meeting. The following were noted particularly:

The 3rd Parish Conference for all Worcestershire Parish and Town Councillors on 30th March 2010 from 7pm until 9pm in the council chamber at County Hall.

The Clerk reported a WDC Standards Committee meeting (hearing re 4 complaints) likely to exclude public from most, on 18/3/2010 @ 18:15hrs.

Age Concern: A letter requesting contact details for the Parish was passed to S. MacLeod to reply using her local knowledge.

2010.35 Date of Next Meeting.

Public Meeting 23rd March 2010.

Parish Meeting 28th April 2010.

The date of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be Tuesday 11th May 2010, at Whittington Village Hall. This will be the Annual Meeting of the Council at which appointments for the coming year are decided.

The meeting closed at 21.40 Hrs.

2010.27 Public (Highways) Meeting (23/3/2010) & Whittington Annual Parish Meeting (28/4/2010).

Public Meeting: Whittington's highways - their problems and future. The arrangements for a public meeting on 23rd March 2010 were noted and it was agreed to make a leaflet drop to advertise the event appropriate action. The meeting would start at 20:00 hrs. County Councillor Derek Proddger, Roy Fullee, and Rob Adams were expected to be present + possibly a representative of the Accident Studies section.

The Clerk suggested that the following were likely topics for discussion:

Worcester Transport Strategy	Speed Limit on B4084 Pershore Road
Lane & Roundabout markings and signage for B4084 & J7	Road drainage.
Church Lane. Potholes & sunken drains/gulleys in carriageway.	Supply of grit to grit bins.
VAS/DFS	

Whittington Annual Parish Meeting 28th April 2010.

The Meeting was to start at 19:30 the Clerk suggested that the formal business dealt with first which should take until approx 20:00 depending upon contributors.

The second part of the meeting would comprise a presentation, the Chairman had provisionally ascertained that S. Birch - Head of Trading Standards and Waste Management @ WCC - would be willing to provide a 20 minute talk and take questions. This was agreed by all present and the Clerk was to confirm arrangements and contact participants as necessary.

(Steve Birch -. Tel 01 905 765380 e-mail sbirch@worcestershire.gov.uk prepared to give 20 minute talk if available - diary seems clear as at 15:40 09/03/2010)

The Clerk was to prepare an appropriate leaflet advertising both meetings, in consultation with the Chairman who would co-ordinate delivery.

2010.28 Worcester Transport Strategy.

Members considered the draft response prepared by the Clerk. Amendment of item 2.d. was requested to follow a line that whilst the Council realised that there would be legitimate concerns in those parishes more directly affected WPC favoured the NW Link Road. Item 5.a. was also requested to be amended to relate to Whittington supporting existing proposals and their extension in the locality. Subject to amendment of these items it was agreed (MB/SM) unanimously that the Clerk be instructed to respond along the lines of the draft.

2010.29 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

The Clerk reported on the recent changes to NALC's Model S.O.'s and suggested there might be a need for revision to the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

Members felt that any action now would be precipitate and asked the Clerk to place the matter on a future (probably July's) agenda

2010.30 District and County Councillors' Report – For Information.

County and District Councillor Adams reported increases in Council Tax requirements of 1.94% (WDC) and 2.5% (WCC). He had compared the WPC's precept with others in the District and felt it was slightly below average for similar size councils. He reported the official opening of the Envirosort plant at Norton (MB indicated he had been invited) with presently 200 tonnes per day throughput due to increase to annual levels of 52k tonnes in April; 64 tonnes in July and 105 tonnes by the end of the year. He also supplied contact details for groups wishing to visit the plant.

He referred to the Pershore Forum event planned for later in the week and hoped to see some representatives of WPC there.

The County was continuing to promote the Worcester Parkway facility at Norton, but the Dept. of Transport, and rail/train operators were not supportive.

2010.31 Police Report – For Information.

PCSO Fogwill reported during the Democratic Period to allow his early return to other commitments.

He indicated that a substantial number of calls (52) had been received from "Whittington" at least 32 of these related to Motorway matters. Only two crimes had been recorded which related to incidents involving action in Whittington not necessarily arising there.

Motor Cycling on the bridleways and footpaths to and under the M5 was again presenting its head but this was being watched and action would be taken if necessary. Improved liaison arrangements were agreed with the Chairman.

2010.32 Reports by Councillors, and Items for Future Agendas.

a) To receive the reports of Committees and Working Groups and of Councillors representing the Council on outside bodies, to ask relevant questions, and to consider appropriate action.

Envirosort Site, Norton (CMRF) Liaison Group: The Chairman referred to the previous comments.

b) To receive reports of Councillors on other matters.

The Chairman reported that R.A. Phillips had retired from the Council as he expected to take the Chairmanship of the Village Hall Committee at the end of March and would need to concentrate his energies there to progress the redevelopment of the Hall. The Clerk had formally acknowledged the resignation and he (the Chairman) would be writing to recognise Roger's loyal and long service.

c) To note inclusion of specific items on a future agenda.

May 2010: Wychavon Games 2010 and Clerk's Holiday Arrangements May to 15/6

- c. Proposals for Expenditure. To consider proposals for expenditure.
 - i) Budgeted expenditure: Members agreed to the purchase of “Standing Orders for Local Councils” at a cost of £15.00 (HPC was willing to share the cost).
 - ii) Other expenditure: Requests for funding from Macmillan Cancer Support and Wychavon CAB requesting funding assistance were considered but not accepted.
- d. Adoption of Quarterly a/c report as at 31/12/2009: The Clerk explained that this item had been overlooked at the January meeting. Members agreed the report without further comment.
- e. Other:
 - i) The Clerk referred to the resignation of R.A. Phillips which left the Council without an R.F.O. and offered to accept this responsibility until the Annual Meeting in May. The offer was gratefully accepted (MB/SM) and the Clerk appointed R.F.O. pro tem.
 - ii) With the approach the end of year he sought approval to make virements and transfers to reserves as necessary to complete the accounts in good order. Councillors authorised (MB/SM) the Clerk/RFO to do so.
 - iii) The Clerk reported that WPC’s long term investment in the form of a high interest deposit bond matured on 6/4/2010 and sought instruction. After considerable and heated debate as to the poor investment return offered by this form of account, it was agreed that MH would investigate the situation and inform the Clerk of possible alternatives within one week. The Clerk/RFO was delegated to make the decision based on such advice, where to place the moneys taking into account access, security and return.

2010.25 Highways & Byways.

a. Highways Matters:

General: None

M5 Noise: None

Maintenance:

Works for the Lengthsman: None.

Previous Matters:

A positive response from Roy Fullee to request for replacement of speed limit repeater signs on Whittington Road was reported.

New Matters:

WCC had notified closure of Church Lane from 5/4/2010 (probably for 2 weeks) for drainage works. Enquiries made in the hope that this included the sunken drain grate opposite Goldcliffe, had elicited that the work comprised new road drainage and gullies on the stretch from Old Road to the bend opposite Langland.

Traffic Management:

Previous Matters:

MB reported continued “all day” parking on the private access on the North side of the B4084 just East of J7.

The police were unable to take action re the parking as this was private land, but could act on littering if provided with evidence. It was agreed (MB/GLC) to instruct the Clerk to write to the owners (Spetchley Estates) seeking their co-operation to prohibit parking on their access road.

Request for lane markings and signage to be provided on the A44, approaching J7 of the M5: R. Fullee (WCC) had responded that this would be assessed as part of the speed limit review. Apart from identifying appropriate speed limits for this road, signing and lining may also form part of any proposed improvements.

Barriers at the Swinesherd roundabout: R. Fullee had reported no progress and apologised for the delay.

New Matters: None

b. Byways:

General:

Parish Paths Warden: Members were updated by the Clerk & Chairman as to the situation vis a vis the appointment of M. Lodge as PPW. An invitation to nominate Parish Tree Warden had been received.

Whittington Tump - access: No action had taken place in the village. The situation was reviewed by the Clerk and Chairman for the benefit of Members. It was acknowledged that if anything was to happen to reinstate access to “The Tump” action was needed in Whittington. The Clerk indicated that evidence needed to be gathered to prove that a right of way had been created by usage over many years and that this needed local input.

Those members of the Council who had long term knowledge of the situation were asked to provide their own statements, and Parishioners were to be canvassed at the forthcoming Public and parish Meetings to contribute any evidence they might have. WPC Members were to seek likely witnesses locally.

The Chairman of Norton Juxta Kempsey PC had contacted the Clerk to offer assistance in obtaining evidence from his parishioners.

Bridleways & Footpaths:

During discussion referred to above it was reported that the Bridleway (No’s. 577,578, 579 and 504) & Footpath (No. 583) to Norton was obstructed by locked gates and electric fences. The Clerk undertook to report these to the Countryside Access Officer.

2010.26 Training.

The Clerk sought Council’s approval for his attendance at Worcestershire SLCC Inaugural (Branch) Meeting & I.T. training day at Pershore £25 on 23/3/2010. HPC was willing to share the costs. His attendance was authorised (MB/SM) The Clerk suggested that it would be simplest and equitable if WPC paid for the book - purchase approved at 2010.24 c (i) and HPC for this training, which apportionment was accepted by Councillors.

At a Meeting of Whittington Parish Council held at Whittington Village Hall on Tuesday 9th March 2010, at 19:30 Hrs.

Democratic Period/ Question Time: No members of the General Public were present, but as PCSO Fogwill was present he was invited to give his report at this point to allow him to return to his other duties. His report is minuted at item 2010.31.

2010.19 Attendance.

Present: M. Baker, G.L. Coldicott, M. Hallmark, S. MacLeod.
In Attendance: P.S. Roe, Clerk; District & County Councillor R.C. Adams, PCSO Alex Fogwill.
It was reported that R.A. Phillips had resigned and that the Casual Vacancy procedure had commenced.
Apologies: N. Hodgetts, A. Lodge.

2010.20 Declarations of Interest and Ethical Matters.

- a There were no declarations of Personal (non prejudicial) Interests in items on this Agenda.
- b There were no declarations of Prejudicial Interests in items on this Agenda.
- c Ethical Matters. None raised

2010.21 Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Council.

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 12th January 2010, having been previously distributed, were taken as read, and were adopted (MB/SM) without amendment.

2010.22 Planning.

- a. New and Unresolved Planning Applications: None
- b. Previous consultations. The Council's response to the following applications was as noted.
W/09/02282/CU & W/09/02283/LB: Change of Use & Listed Building consent; Church Farm, Church Lane Whittington - No comment. The Clerk apologised that these were overlooked at the January Meeting.
W/10/00115/AA: Advertisement Application; "To let" Sign re Temeside House at Whittington Hall. Clerk commented only re short term temporary permission, otherwise no objection.
- c. Planning Decisions: The following Planning decisions were reported.
W/09/02283/LB: Listed Building consent; Church Farm, Church Lane, Whittington. Approved STC.
W/09/02282/CU: Change of Use; Church Farm, Church Lane, Whittington. Approved STC.
- d. Other Planning Consultations:
SWJCS: Response to "Development Near You" consultation due in by 30/4/2010
Worcestershire County Council: Members' attention was drawn to the Planning Validation Document (included in Clerk's Digest 09-012). There was no comment.
- e. Other Planning Matters:
Concern re advertising signs at J7: The sign had been removed.
SWJCS: } The Chairman briefly reported the Meeting of Villages held at
WMRSS: } Tibberton V.H. on 6/3/2010 and undertook to update
Junction 6 Development: } Members as more information was received.
Wychavon D.C.: Previously the Clerk had been asked to look into the need for planning consent for the alterations at The Archdeacon's House, Walkers Lane. WDC had advised that none was needed, all - except the change to the access - being "permitted development". As it appeared that the work was being completed and the driveway had been permanently altered the Clerk had sought advice from WDC. It transpired that this too was "permitted development" as Walkers Lane was an unclassified road.
Some Members were incensed at the insensitivity of the design, the lack of opportunity for consultation, and at the way in which work had been conducted without regard to neighbours or other users of Walkers Lane. It was agreed (MB/SM) with one abstention (M. Hallmark) that the Clerk be instructed to write to WDC expressing the Council's concern at the nature of the construction which was considered out of character with the area, the lack of consultation, the lack of consideration for road users, and the damage occasioned to the road outside by construction traffic.

2010.23 Progress Reports/Updates on Matters Previously Resolved.

- a. Wychavon Bursary: RAP had been unable to put together a citation in time to make this year's entry.
- b. Residents' Parking Discs: A sample had been received from SM and an order was to be placed for 100 red "stickers".

2010.24 Finance.

- a. The Clerk reported receipts since last Meeting: HSBC Interest £0.41, WCC £277.20 re Lengthsman.
- b. Payments: Invoices and requests for payment were submitted as follows: -

Expenditures: 09/03/2010	Date of invoice	VAT No	Net	Gross
S. Gwilliam - Lengthsman Services for Jan. 2010 (paid)			£176.00	£176.00
S. Gwilliam - Litterpicking & Gardening Services for Jan. 2010 (paid)			£35.00	£35.00
S. Gwilliam - Lengthsman Services for Feb. 2010	15/02/2010		£132.00	£132.00
S. Gwilliam - Litterpicking Services for Feb. 2010	18/2/2010		£35.00	£35.00
Total			£ 378.00	£ 378.00

Payment was agreed (MB/GCL) unanimously.